

**Committee Notes – Joint Meeting**  
**Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID**  
**September 13, 2012**

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Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: Dan Chismire. Not Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Carol Massie, Don Mushin, and Thaddeus Smith. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Fabio Conti, Roxanna Sassanian. Not Present: John Lupo, Elizabeth McDonald, and Anthony Bell. Liaisons: Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, and Bill Farrar Andrews International; Officer Danny Pesqueira, LAPD; Lt. Karl Schow, Lt. Sergio Aloma, and Deputy Del Moore, LASD; Angela Motta, Council District 13. Staff: Kerry Morrison, Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Chad Lewis, 1600 Vine Apartments; Charlie Colletta, HEI; Vahid Sapir, Starline Tours; Joe Burwell, Guillermo Lopez, Sean Fraser, Wellman Group.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Fred Rosenthal at 9:42 a.m.
- II. Public Comment: Chad Lewis, part of the new ownership group of the 1600 Vine apartments introduced himself to the group.
- III. Meeting Notes: The Committee approved the meeting notes from their July 12, 2012 meeting.
- IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Steve Seyler reported that BID Security has made 27 more arrests this year, as compared to last year. Radio calls in the two BIDs are also higher. Seyler said that the officers are working on a variety of issues, and have made 961 total arrests in the two districts. Joe Salazar asked the Sheriffs in attendance if they could help the BID with a homeless gentleman who refuses to leave a bus stop in the BID. Both BID Security and Outreach providers have tried working with the gentleman to place him in a shelter but he refuses to move. Salazar said the gentleman is becoming a concern as he consistently can be found drinking in public, and often urinating on the benches. The sheriff agreed to meet with the gentleman after the meeting.

2. Equipment Discussion: Joe Mariani reported that the BID office had recently received a visit from a gentleman who was very upset about an arrest he was involved in. Mariani informed the committee that Andrews had done a formal investigation of the gentleman's complaint, but that he still seemed displeased. Due to the sometime aggressive natures of individuals encountered in the BID, Mariani suggested the committee recommend purchasing recording devices for the officers in the field. The officers would also undergo former training by Andrews. The committee thought the idea was good, but asked that both Andrews and the BID confer with legal counsel to make sure that recording (video and audio) in the public realm is acceptable.

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B. Report from LAPD: Officer Pesqueira reported that crime stats for Hollywood have managed to maintain their decline. Additionally, thefts from the nightclubs are also down. Officer Pesqueira said that the area has had an “outstanding summer” in terms of crime reduction, with the exception of theft from motor vehicles. The department has also been working with the community to help improve its relationships in the area where they serve.

C. Report from LA Sheriff’s Department: Lt. Schow reported that Metro is continuing to change out the paper ticket machines to TAP card dispensers. There has yet to be a definitive date set as to when gates will begin being locked. The LASD has recently formed a new bus riding team to create a more visible presence on the city’s lines. The department is also trying to schedule a meeting with the LAPD to prepare for October 31<sup>st</sup> festivities in the area. Lastly, Lt. Schow reported that he will be moving to another area of the LASD, and introduced his replacement Lt. Aloma to the committee.

#### **VI. New Business**

A. Status of Video Surveillance Camera System: Mariani gave a brief update on the system. As of September all cameras are up and running, with the exception of Whitley. Mariani also said that Jim Sage, Metro Video, is trying to work with the LAPD to schedule a time for Metro to go by and clean the Hollywood and Highland camera.

B. Fast Food Restaurant Security Use: Mariani and Seyler met with the owner of one fast food establishment in the Sunset and Vine District. Mariani reported that due to previous outreach efforts to the owner and operator, it appears that calls for service from the location have declined. The owner has also asked that the BID continue to keep him informed of how things progress.

C. Discussion Regarding Possible Nighttime Deployment Hours: Mariani reviewed with the committee which showed the potential costs of the BID implementing a 13 week nighttime patrol. The idea, which has been raised by several stakeholders and Captain Girmala, would be to have six officers serving in an “observe and report” capacity to the LAPD during late night hours. The spreadsheet depicted two options, showing the costs of either armed or unarmed officers. Kerry Morrison asked Officer Pesqueira what would be the benchmark to see if the experiment was a success. Officer Pesqueira said that the stats from June – July compared to the period with the officers would be the information to see if the experiment was a success. The committee expressed numerous concerns to Officer Pesqueira, including what the typical response time would be for the LAPD to respond to the BID’s calls. Officer Pesqueira did not have the answer to some of the committee’s concerns, but did say he would go back and check with Captain Girmala. Officer Pesqueira also suggested that the committee look into the potential costs of just having two BID officers man the camera room during the evening hours. Morrison said the committee would consider the proposal and also asked that Officer Pesqueira ask the Captain what exactly would be her idea for the nighttime BID patrol experiment.

#### **D. Security RFP 2012**

1. Review of draft RFP and Timeline: Mariani reviewed the calendar for the RFP process with the committee. The Selection Committee, which will be chaired by John Tronson and Fred Rosenthal, will oversee the process. Members of the Committee include: Elizabeth

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McDonald, Roxanna Sassanian (SVBID) and Dan Chismire, Charlie Colletta, John Lyons (HPOA). The proposals will go out on Monday, September 24.

#### **V. Old Business**

##### **A. Homeless Outreach Update:**

a. Injunction Impacting Skid Row Sidewalks: Morrison gave an update on the court's decision and showed the committee a slideshow of a recent case which occurred in the SVBID. LAPD had arrested a couple Wednesday late evening (9/12/2012) and had left their belongings on the public sidewalk. During the night individuals had rummaged through the belongings leaving both the street and sidewalk covered in property. Due to the court's decision the staff is presently working with LAPD to try and come up with a way to restore the sidewalk without taking on liability. Going forward Morrison told the committee she is working on three ideas.

The first would be to make a formal request of the Mayor and City Attorney, on behalf of the two BID boards, to appeal the Ninth Circuit's decision.

The second would be for the BID Consortium to put together an op-ed piece for the LA Times on how the court's decision has impacted one of the primary roles of BIDs, to keep the sidewalks and public areas clean.

Lastly, Morrison is checking with the LAPD if Clean Street can bag the property up and place it against the wall where it had previously been. This will allow pedestrians to walk down the sidewalk as currently it is covered in clothing and other material.

##### **B. Community Impact Team**

a. Sidewalk Issues: Mariani reported that a formal motion is in the works of going before City Council which would prohibit the sales of sightseeing tours from kiosks along the Boulevard. The staff will continue to inform the committee of the status of the proposal as it is closer to coming before Council.

C. Valet Parking Ordinance: Angela Motta informed the committee that her office is working on the ordinance. If all goes as planned the Council should have it before them for a formal vote on September 28.

D. Hollywood Boulevard Repaving: Motta also reported that the Council Office is working with LADOT to schedule the repaving of Hollywood Boulevard from La Brea to Gower. The project will be broken up into three phases and is tentatively scheduled for the last three Mondays in October.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 9:30 am in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Fred Rosenthal at 11:03 p.m.